



NEWSLETTER

of the **WISCONSIN ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

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Les Ferge, Editor

November 1996

ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD DECEMBER 7 IN MADISON

The next meeting of the Wisconsin Entomological Society will be held on Saturday, December 7 at Russell Labs on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus. Russell Labs is located at the corner of Babcock and Linden Drives (see map on back page) and parking is available in lots adjacent to the building. The meeting will begin at 1:30 PM. The program will feature our annual photo salon. Any members having slides of entomological subjects are encouraged to participate. Each entrant may submit up to five slides, labelled with the subject and name of photographer. The slides will be evaluated by the audience, which will vote to select the winning entries. The winner's name will be added to the William E. Sieker Memorial Plaque, and a print of the first place slide is added to the display in the Entomology Department office, and is also awarded to the photographer. Presentations tentatively scheduled include an overview of the 1996 season by Phil Pellitteri, prairie restoration in Gov. Nelson Park by Andre Khitsun, and a butterfly video by Dean Hansen. Also on the agenda is the election of officers for 1997. Nominations are welcome, and can be made at the meeting. Volunteers may contact Phil Pellitteri at the Department of Entomology, 1630 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706, or phone (608) 262-6510.

DIAGNOSTIC LAB REVIEW OF 1996

Phil Pellitteri

The more summers I survive, the more in awe I am of the adaptability and flexibility of insects and their jointed-legged relatives. No two collecting seasons are ever the same, and I have come to expect change and the unexpected rather than the predictable. We are supposed to get wiser with age, but to me a wiser entomologist becomes more humble.

Some critters had off years. Most things that tried to overwinter above the snow line had trouble. The cold wet spring didn't help either. With all that hostile weather, a high mortality of gypsy moth egg masses was noticed. German yellow jacket, eastern tent caterpillar, European earwigs, the Mirid plant bugs on ash and honeylocust trees and the Adelgids that cause galls on spruces had populations way below normal to almost nonexistent in the state. Monarchs were very late in arriving, with the first signs of reproduction in late July. The lack of strong southerly air flows in the spring prevented a number of insects from getting to the state on time.

(continued on next page)

The Newsletter of the Wisconsin Entomological Society is published three times a year, at irregular intervals. It is provided to encourage and facilitate the exchange of information by the membership, and to keep the members informed of the activities of the organization. Members are strongly encouraged to contribute items for inclusion in the Newsletter. Please send all news items, notes, new or interesting insect records, season summaries, research requests, and report any address changes to the editor: Les Ferge, 7119 Hubbard Avenue, Middleton, WI 53562.

But the winter did not stop everything. Japanese beetle numbers were as strong as last year, and unfortunately the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture has some very high gypsy moth trap counts coming in from around the state (100,000 moths). Who knows how bad it would have been without the winter mortality. There were a number of Chrysomlid beetles that overwinter as adults that came through the winter very strong. It helps to hide under the snow. A few Imperial moth adults (*Eacles imperialis*) were found in our light traps, and I did receive a higher number of questions and calls on various Sphingid species including the Hummingbird clearwing, *Catalpa sphinx* and *Pandorus sphinx*.

Among the strange activities, an orange-colored red spider mite (*Eotetranychus* sp.) appeared on ash trees in mid September. The trunks would be covered with thick webbing and millions of overwintering females would give the trunk a pumpkin orange appearance. The trees showed no signs of feeding damage. These mites do not look like any of the described North American fauna. Similar explosions have been reported this fall in Pennsylvania, Iowa and Minnesota. We are looking for help in finding out who this is. The mesquite borer (*Megacyllene robusta*) was recorded for the first time in Wisconsin. This cerambycid was associated with mesquite wood used in local restaurant kitchens. We also had the first state record for a small dipteran called the Alfalfa Blotch Leafminer. This insect was a serious problem out east in years past, but since the introduction of a parasitoid, it has lost much of pest status. An outbreak of fuzzy planthopper nymphs caught a few people's attention this July.

The fall brought complaints of the multicolored lady beetle (*Harmonia axyridis*) and its fall congregations on sides of buildings. Unusually high (historic record setting) populations of European Corn Borer followed large overwintering numbers. With the use of genetically engineered corn just starting, it will be interesting to see what long term impact we will see. We had enough complaints about Colorado Potato Beetles in people's gardens that we've concluded that widespread insecticide resistance is showing up in Wisconsin.

After over 5,000 phone calls and samples, I would rate this year as a 4 or 5 on a ten point scale of insect madness. I will be looking for a banded woollybear that will give us a milder winter for 1996-97, and have the winter season to rest up for the earwig and tent caterpillar plagues that will result.

LEPIDOPTERA SEASON SUMMARY CONTRIBUTIONS WANTED

1996 Wisconsin Lepidoptera records are wanted for inclusion in the season summary which is to appear in the next W. E. S. Newsletter. Things to report include uncommon species occurring in your area, early or late occurrences, unusual abundance or scarcity, rearing or host plant data, or flowers utilized by adults. Please indicate county, locality, and date of capture or observation, and also note if records are sight only, or documented by voucher specimens or photos. Specimens whose identities are uncertain may be brought to the December meeting for verification, or arrangements to view specimens or photos at another time may be made individually. Please send reports by January 5 to: Les Ferge, 7119 Hubbard Avenue, Middleton, WI 53562.

1996 WISCONSIN ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP LIST

(Column after names indicates year dues paid through and Individual, Family, Sustaining or Patron membership)

BALOGH, GEORGE	1996-P	6275 LITEOLIER	PORTAGE	MI	49002
BARBEAU, JODY	1996-I	2630 N. HUMBOLDT BLVD APT 204	MILWAUKEE	WI	53212
BARINA, TOM	1996-I	15050 VERA CRUZ	NEW BERLIN	WI	53151
BEHNKE, CHARLES	1996-I	242 HIGH ST	MINERAL POINT	WI	53565-1210
BENJAMIN, DANIEL	1996-S	1656 CHADWELL DR	SANTA MARIA	CA	93454-3400
BLASCZYK, MARTIN	1994-I	MILW PUBLIC MUSEUM, 800 W WELLS ST	MILWAUKEE	WI	53233
BLESER, CATHY A	1995-I	1096 PERRY CENTER	MT HOREB	WI	53572
BOLLES, J CRAIG	1995-I	3934 MANITOU WAY	MADISON	WI	53711
BORKIN, SUSAN S	1996-I	2119 E WOOD PL	SHOREWOOD	WI	53211
BORTH, ROBERT	1996-I	6926 N BELMONT LN	FOX POINT	WI	53217
BOSSERT, FREDERICK	1996-I	3392 SILVER LAKE DR	WEST BEND	WI	53095
BRANDT, FREDERICK W	1994-I	11525 88TH AVE NO	MAPLE GROVE	MN	55369
BRYANT, ROBERT	1996-I	522 OLD ORCHARD RD	BALTIMORE	MD	21229
BUCHLI, BYRON	1996-I	3055 FADNESS DR	DEERFIELD	WI	53531
BURKHOLDER, WENDELL	1995-I	DEPT OF ENTOMOLOGY, 1630 LINDEN DR	MADISON	WI	53706
CAPPS, DAN	1994-I	702 WHITEHALL DR	MADISON	WI	53714
CARPENTER, ANITA	1996-I	304A SCOTT AVE	OSHKOSH	WI	54901
CONWAY, PATRICK	1996-I	4533 STANLEY ST	DOWNERS GROVE	IL	60515
COPPEL, HARRY	1996-I	5025 SHEBOYGAN AVE APT 212	MADISON	WI	53705-2815
CRONIN, DENNIS	1994-I	1525 HOWE ST M.S. 402	RACINE	WI	53406-5011
DAUB, ED	1996-I	4258 MANITOU WAY	MADISON	WI	53711
DERNEHL, NANCY	1995-I	UW-WAUKESHA, 1500 UNIVERSITY DR	WAUKESHA	WI	53188
DESWARTE, DAVID	1996-I	1632 MT AIRY CT	CROFTON	MD	21114-1711
DICKE, ROBERT	1996-S	3717 COUNCIL CREST	MADISON	WI	53711
DITTL, TIMOTHY	1996-I	1721 BOB-O-LINK CT	WIS RAPIDS	WI	54494
DRECKTRAH, GENE	1996-S	BIOLOGY DEPT, UW - OSHKOSH	OSHKOSH	WI	54901
EBNER, JIM	1996-I	BOX 556	OKAUCHEE	WI	53069
EVANS, MARK	1996-I	217 ISLAND DR	MADISON	WI	53705
FERGE, LES & CAROL	1996-F	7119 HUBBARD AVE	MIDDLETON	WI	53562
GREENLER, BARBARA	1996-I	1901 W PIONEER RD	MEQUON	WI	53092
GRIMEK, HERBERT	1995-I	1101 TEMKIN AVE	MADISON	WI	53705
GRIMSTAD, PAUL	1996-I	UNIV OF NOTRE DAME, DEPT BIOL SCIENCES	NOTRE DAME	IN	46556-0369
HAINZE, JOHN	1996-I	4747 N LAKE DR	MILWAUKEE	WI	53211-1257
HANSEN, DEAN	1996-I	402 SOUTH 6TH ST	STILLWATER	MN	55082
HENDERSON, RICH & KATHY	1996-F	2845 TIMBER LN	VERONA	WI	53593
HERRMANN, DAVID	1996-I	2045 S LAYTON BLVD	MILWAUKEE	WI	53215
HILSENHOFF, WILLIAM	1996-I	DEPT OF ENTOMOLOGY, 1630 LINDEN DR	MADISON	WI	53706
HOFFMAN, RANDY	1996-I	305 5TH ST	WAUNAKEE	WI	53597
HOGG, DAVID & SUSAN	1996-S	DEPT OF ENTOMOLOGY, 1630 LINDEN DR	MADISON	WI	53706
HOWE, ROBERT	1994-S	DEPT NAT AND APP SCI, UNIV OF WISCONSIN	GREEN BAY	WI	54311-7001
JAVOREK, JEFF	1996-I	903 S CTH X	MOSINEE	WI	54455
JOHNSON, ROBBYE	1995-I	2602 N 28TH ST	SUPERIOR	WI	54880
KAISER, KURT & C BARRETT	1995-F	1320 W WASHINGTON AVE	CLEVELAND	WI	53015-1429
KATOVICH, KERRY	1996-I	1026 GAMMON LN APT 3	MADISON	WI	53719-2200
KHITSUN, ANDREY	1996-I	501 S MIDVALE BLVD APT 127	MADISON	WI	53711
KLEIN, MICHAEL	1996-P	1520 SILVER RD	WOOSTER	OH	44691
KMENTT, WALDEMAR	1996-S	4330 E WOOD TR	BELOIT	WI	53511-7828
KNUDSON, JIM, PAT, MARIE	1996-F	6713 GLEASON RD S	EDINA	MN	55435
KONS JR, HUGO	1994-I	719 W SUMMER ST	APPLETON	WI	54914
KORB, RANDY	1996-I	W6803 MANITOWOC RD	MENASHA	WI	54952
KRUSE, JAMES	1996-I	1729 HIGH POINT RD APT 15	MIDDLETON	WI	53562-3179
KUGLER JR, WALTER M	1996-I	525 PIPER DR	MADISON	WI	53711
LANG, JEAN	1995-I	132 VIA SERENA	ALAMO	CA	94507
LANGE, KENNETH I	1995-I	1530 EAST ST	BARABOO	WI	53913
LEARY, ROBERT	1996-I	612 S WESTFIELD ST	OSHKOSH	WI	54901-5540
LEGLER, KARL & DOROTHY	1996-F	429 FRANKLIN ST	SAUK CITY	WI	53583
LILLIE, RICHARD A	1997-I	8609 SCHOEPP RD	SAUK CITY	WI	53583
LINTEREUR, GREG	1996-I	2120 UNIVERSITY AVE #413	MADISON	WI	53705
LINTEREUR, LEROY J	1995-S	1428 MARY ST	MARINETTE	WI	54143

LEPIDOPTERA CONSERVATION SYMPOSIUM NOTES

Ann Swengel

Members Scott and Ann Swengel attended the 2nd International Symposium on Conserving Lepidoptera, at the University of Warwick in Coventry, England on September 6-8, 1996. Ann spoke about their surveys of prairie and barrens butterflies, analyzed to study management effects on species restricted to these habitats (published in 1996 in *Biological Conservation* 76: 73-85, with a second paper in press at the same journal). If you would like a copy, just write to Ann Swengel, 909 Birch St., Baraboo, WI 53913.

The frequent rotational burning preferred for conservation management turns out to be quite unfavorable, while such alternatives as mowing, haying (removing the clippings after mowing), and grazing are more favorable. However, no single management type is optimal for all specialists in the same habitat type, suggesting that butterfly conservation strategies should include both management consistency within a habitat patch but management differentness among habitat patches.

The logical conclusion of this is that no one management formula or set of ecological processes is optimal (or "most natural") for an ecosystem - since each species native to that ecosystem would no doubt define these differently! Thus, Ann concluded by questioning assumptions seemingly implied by current approaches to ecosystem conservation: that science knows well enough how nature once operated and how to replicate that in current habitat management, that natural ecosystem functioning naturally favors diversity (especially rare species), and that replicating these processes will produce desirable outcomes for these rare species. A subsequent plenary speaker, Kieth Brown of Brazil (and once a student at UW-Madison), redisplayed Ann's chart on these assumptions, stating that these concerns also apply to the tropics.

Other speakers repeatedly raised concerns about both the increasing intensification of agricultural practices (reducing the amount of traditional grazing and haying, more favorable managements for Lepidoptera) as well as the abandonment of marginal farmlands, which often grow over into forest and fragment open habitats. As always, the majority of Lepidoptera (moths) received the minority of air time, but a century or more (!) of data on European moth distribution and phenology was used to shed light on the effects of climatic change.

Afterward, we spent a week touring the countryside with amazingly sunny weather. It turns out that a major Painted Lady outbreak occurred this summer, so we saw many of that butterfly, as well as tortoiseshells, peacocks, and other common species.

MACARTHUR, KENNETH	1994-S	15900 W MONTEREY DR	NEW BERLIN	WI	53151
MARTIN, ROBERT	1996-I	1310 ORANGE ST	RACINE	WI	53404-2932
MATZKE, CURTIS	1996-I	1817 WESLEY AVE	JANESVILLE	WI	53545
MAXWELL, JUDI	1996-I	5834 BALSAM RD APT 3	MADISON	WI	53711-4248
MCILRATH, STUART M	1994-I	2130 GRANDVIEW PL	LACROSSE	WI	54601
MERGNER, MATT	1994-I	W149 N8373 RIMROCK RD	GERMANTOWN	WI	53022
MERKHOFFER, RICHARD	1996-S	39 PARKVIEW DR	APPLETON	WI	54915
MERTINS, JAMES	1996-I	3028 NORTHRIDGE PKWY	AMES	IA	50010
MEYER, SANDRA	1995-I	10320 W GOOD HOPE RD	MILWAUKEE	WI	53224
NARF, PHILIP A	1995-I	2405 WAUNONA WAY	MADISON	WI	53713
NIELSEN, MOGENS	1996-S	3415 OVERLEA DR	LANSING	MI	48917
NOONAN, GERALD R	1995-I	MILW PUBLIC MUSEUM, 800 W WELLS ST	MILWAUKEE	WI	53233
OLSEN, LEE	1994-I	3981 HWY 34	PORT WASHINGTON	WI	53074-9761
OTTO, LORRIE	1996-I	9701 N LAKE DR	MILWAUKEE	WI	53217
PARKINSON, JAMES C	1996-I	1951 JAMES ST	MOSINEE	WI	54455
PEACOCK, JOHN W	1996-I	185 BENZLER LUST RD	MARION	OH	43302-8369
PELLITTERI, PHIL	1995-I	DEPT OF ENTOMOLOGY, 1630 LINDEN DR	MADISON	WI	53706
PFUTZENREUTER, MARY A	1995-I	E2249 ROCKLEDGE RD	LUXEMBURG	WI	54217-9702
PHELPS, LAURENCE	1996-S	6472 WILSON RD	ROCK SPRINGS	WI	53961
PLEYTE, TOM	1994-I	PO BOX 134	ATHELSTANE	WI	54104-0134
RADKE, DAVID	1996-P	1076 W MURRAY LN	HUBERTUS	WI	53033
RAY, JULIE	1996-I	RT 3 BOX 251	CHIPPEWA FALLS	WI	54729
ROCHELEAU, TOM & NINA	1996-F	DEPT OF ENTOMOLOGY, 3100 BUENA VISTA	MADISON	WI	53704
ROMEYN, RICHARD	1996-I	W5306 EMERALD CT	LACROSSE	WI	54601
ROOS, KELLY	1996-I	PO BOX 52	COLGATE	WI	53017
SCHABEL, HANS G	1996-I	COLL OF NAT RESOURCES, UNIV OF WIS	STEVENS POINT	WI	54481-3897
SCHEUERELL, CLARE	1994-I	2813 S 33 ST	MILWAUKEE	WI	53215-3618
SIEKER, KATHERINE T	1996-P	5114 MARATHON DR	MADISON	WI	53705
STIEFEL, JOHN & JANICE	1996-S	W6311 MULLETT LA	PLYMOUTH	WI	53073
STILLWAUGH, DON	1994-I	117A ROB ROY LN	PROSPECT HEIGHTS	IL	60070
SULLIVAN, RAYMOND	1996-I	125 N 123RD ST	MILWAUKEE	WI	53226-3809
SWENGEL, ANN B & SCOTT	1996-P	909 BIRCH ST	BARABOO	WI	53913
THOMPSON, BARBARA	1995-I	N6648 SCOTCH COULEE RD	WEST SALEM	WI	54669
THRELFALL, ANNA M	1996-I	N3438 WOODLAWN RD	KENNAN	WI	54537
THRELFALL, MAARIT H	1996-I	5518 BARTON RD	MADISON	WI	53711
TOMASKO, STEVE	1995-I	814 W OLIN AVE	MADISON	WI	53715-2142
TRICK, JOEL A	1996-I	1910 EASTMAN AVE APT A	GREEN BAY	WI	54302
TURNBULL, JAY	1995-S	N1632 SUGARBUSH RD	ANTIGO	WI	54409
VOGEL, THOMAS	1996-I	522 WISCONSIN AVE	KEWAUKEE	WI	54216
WEISMAN, KEN	1996-I	2893 HUMBOLDT RD	GREEN BAY	WI	54311-5746
WESTOVER, DAVE	1996-I	324B N. MONROE ST	WATERLOO	WI	53594
WILLIAMS, ANDREW H	1996-I	PO BOX 1646	MADISON	WI	53701-1646
WILLOUGHBY, THORNTON	1994-S	425 DALE DR	BURLINGTON	WI	53105
YOUNG, ALLEN M	1996-I	MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUSEUM, 800 W WELLS ST	MILWAUKEE	WI	53233
YOUNG, DR DANIEL K	1996-I	DEPT OF ENTOMOLOGY, 1630 LINDEN DR	MADISON	WI	53706
ZOELLER, GERTRUDE	1995-I	267 N6685 BEACON HILL DR	SUSSEX	WI	53089

INSTITUTIONAL SUBSCRIBERS

DEPT OF NAT RESOURCES	1995-I	BUR ENDANGERED RESOURCES, PO BOX 7921	MADISON	WI	53707
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

